

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2996

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, EEWT, SCCE, GE

SUBJECT: EAST GERMAN JOURNALIST RECOMMENDS EXPANDED EAST-WEST
TRADE TO HELP U.S. ECONOMY

1. DR. HEINER WINKLER, AN EAST GERMAN JOURNALIST WHO
VISITED THE UNITED STATES LAST YEAR ON A PARTIAL INTERNATIONAL
VISITORS PROGRAM GRANT, HAS WRITTEN AN ARTICLE ON
THE U.S. ECONOMY IN THE EAST BERLIN "BERLINER ZEITUNG"
OF AUGUST 4. HE USES RECENT COMMENTS BY U.S. PRESIDENTIAL
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ADVISOR ALAN GREENSPAN ON THE U.S. ECONOMY AS A DEPARTURE

POINT FOR A BLAST AT AMERICAN ECONOMIC POLICY ACROSS THE BOARD. HE TAKES UP THE USUAL LINE THAT U.S. "MONOPOLY INTERESTS" AND THEIR PROFIT MOTIVES ARE PROLONGING HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT WHILE RINGING UP RECORD EARNINGS. THE DEFENSE BUDGET ALSO RECEIVES PREDICTABLE CRITICISM AS AN IMPORTANT REASON FEDERAL FUNDS ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO ASSIST DOMESTIC ECONOMIC RECOVERY. BUT PERHAPS THE REAL MESSAGE WINKLER IS TRYING TO CONVEY IS IN HIS OWN CLOSING ARGUMENT THAT INCREASED EAST-WEST TRADE IS GOOD FOR AMERICA'S ECONOMY. WINKLER'S CHIEF CULPRIT PREVENTING EAST-WEST TRADE EXPANSION IS THE U.S. CONGRESS AND HE NOTES THAT ITS ATTITUDE IS CAUSING POTENTIAL TRADE IN THE "BILLIONS" TO GO TO AMERICA'S COMPETITORS WHILE DEPRIVING ONE MILLION UNEMPLOYED AMERICANS OF A CHANCE TO WORK. CITING U.S. SOURCES, HE SAYS INCREASED PRESSURE IS BEING FELT IN CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION "FINALLY TO APPLY THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI TO THE AREA OF EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS."

2. COMMENT: EAST GERMAN OFFICIALS HAVE CONTINUALLY EXPRESSED REGRETS ABOUT WHAT THEY FEEL IS A RESTRICTIVE U.S. TRADE POLICY TOWARD GDR. THEIR FAVORITE THEME IS MFN, THE ABSENCE OF WHICH, THEY ALLEGE, IS PREVENTING A SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF BILATERAL TRADE. WINKLER'S ARTICLE SEEMS TO CONVEY THE IDEA THAT AS FAR AS EAST-WEST TRADE IS CONCERNED, WHAT IS GOOD FOR THE EAST GERMAN ECONOMY IS GOOD FOR THE U.S. TOO. COOPER

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